HIGHER RATE OF INFLATION CAN BE TOLERATED: WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS ITS CAUSE, SAYS IMF OFFICIAL

VILNIUS, Aug 15, BNS - Peter Cornelius, representative of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Lithuania, says a higher than anticipated annual rate of inflation is no cause for alarm, if the government follows more precisely the recommendations which the IMF has been making for a long time. Determing the factors underlying inflation is most vital, says the IMF representative.

Cornelius explained that jumps in inflation due to cuts in subsidies and more efficient collection of taxes would be acceptable, but that twice this year inflation has increased because of rising food prices which are undesirable.

NEW TYPE OF FUEL TESTED AT ELEKTRENAI POWER PLANT

VILNIUS, Aug 15, BNS - On Tuesday at the Elektrenai thermal power plant, tests were begun with a new substitute for crude heating oil, orimulsion. Viktoras Mekas, the plant's technical director, told BNS that at 10:50 A.M. combusion of the new fuel began in one of the plant's furnaces.

Last week specialists from the Venezuelan company BITOR Europe Ltd. began work at the plant, exploring the possibility of whether orimulsion could be combusted in the plant's furnaces. The specialists had no objections, according to Mekas. The first 25.5 tons of the new fuel were shipped from Rotterdamm to Klaipeda and then brought by rail to Elektrenai, where it was poured into a new tank, specially built for orimulsion.

LITHUANIAN PRESIDENT MEETS WITH HEWLETT-PACKARD MANAGERS

VILNIUS, Aug 16, BNS - Algirdas Brazauskas, president of Lithuania, met with Alex Sozonoff, the vice-president of one of the world's foremost computer manufacturers, Hewlett-Packard, and a group of the company's regional directors. About 1500 Hewlett-Packard computers have already been purchased by Lithuanian companies and institutions. Sozonoff noted that his visit to Lithuania and other Eastern European countries had helped him get acquainted with the needs of the market. Hewlett-Packard would like to establish contacts with various scientific institutions and industries in Lithuania, he said.